



Dear Friends,

**Via Foundation and Friends of Via** cordially invite you to our first online charitable auction, which will take place in English **on Saturday, November 21, 2020, 5 – 6 p.m. EST.**

*Year after year, Via Foundation helps build trust between people and develop civic engagement and philanthropy in Czech communities. Building trust pays off, especially during difficult times: many of the local associations, community leaders and mayors we have supported over the years are playing key roles in the Covid-19 crisis. We know that this mission is crucial and meaningful to securing a brighter future.*

We invite you to join us in our mission, and our **online charitable auction!**  
**Save the date & RSVP to: [helenlenda@nadacevia.cz](mailto:helenlenda@nadacevia.cz)**

#### What will be auctioned?

You can look forward to work by leading Czech artists and designers, extraordinary experiences connected to the Czech Republic as well as several very affordable items. Not to be missed: a work by world-renowned glass sculptor **Martin Janecky**, a vase of Czech crystal by **Rückl** and **Rony Plesl** and a unique photo of **Václav Havel**. We'll post the complete list of auction items in early November.



#### How will your gift be used?

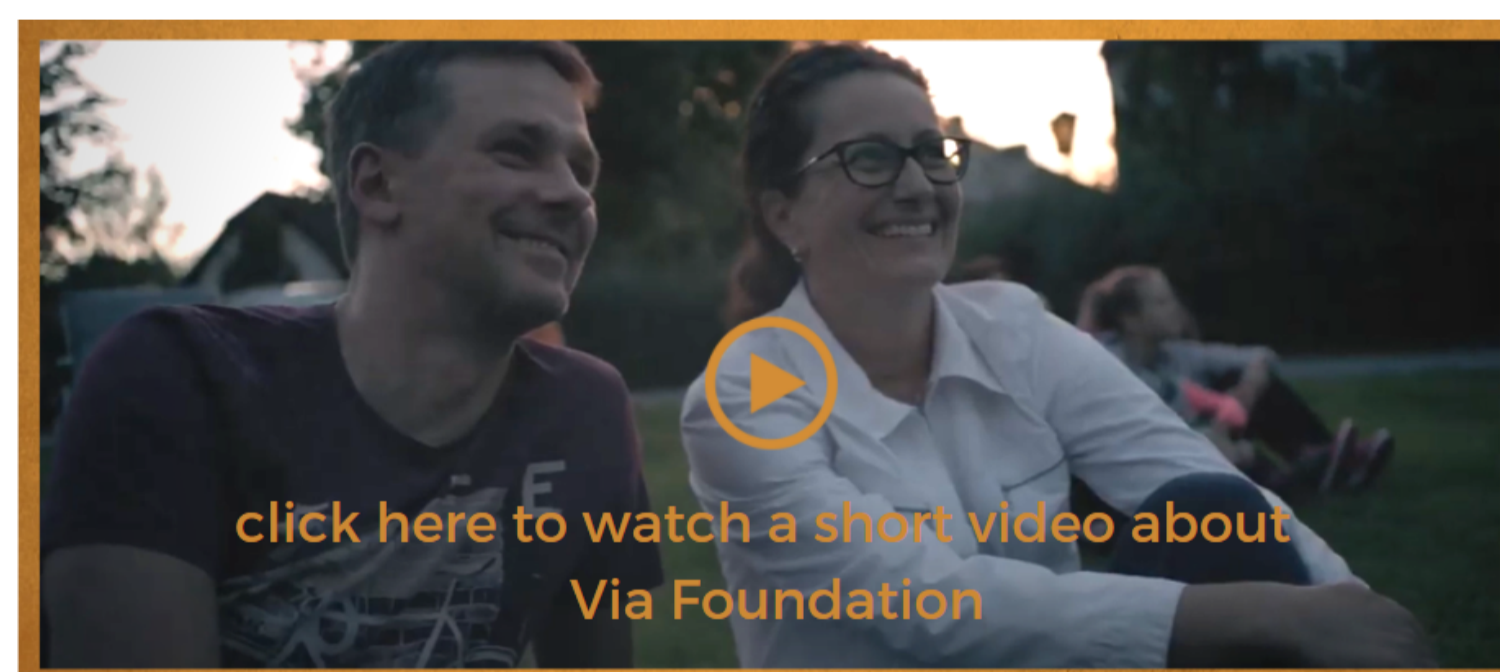
All proceeds will help fund our community-building programs:

- **Living Communities** – small grants and training for community-minded citizens, which, in our experience, are a pillar of democracy
- **Don't Be Afraid of Local Politics** – mentoring citizens helping their communities through public office
- **Young Philanthropists** – guidance for children and teenagers giving back to their communities

**We hope you'll share an hour of your time for this special event!**

#### Why now?

For 25 years, Via Foundation has worked to build more trust between people at community, city, and regional levels. We need your help in continuing that work. We support communities and leaders who will inspire hope that positive change is possible when we work together, especially during difficult times.



**Václav Havel, the former Czech President, said:** "Hope is not identical to optimism. Hope does not mean being convinced that something will turn out well, but being certain that something makes sense, regardless of how it turns out." Václav Havel's life taught him that no situation is hopeless and it always makes sense to strive for positive change.

**Share our hope and join us for our first online charitable auction!**

**Save the date & RSVP to: [helenlenda@nadacevia.cz](mailto:helenlenda@nadacevia.cz)**

Best regards,

Carol Hochman  
President, Friends of Via  
Pittsburgh, PA  
[www.friendsofvia.org](http://www.friendsofvia.org)

Zdeněk Mihalco  
Director, Via Foundation  
Prague  
<https://www.nadacevia.cz/?lang=en>

*PS If you forget to RSVP, you can also find the link on the Friends of Via website - [www.friendsofvia.org](http://www.friendsofvia.org) - in November.*

  
**FRIENDS OF VIA**

  
**NADACE VIA**